

Historic Contexts and Beyond

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Photo: Constance – iExplore Community

*Don't it always
seem to go
That you don't
know what
you've got
'Till it's gone*



*They paved
paradise
And put up a
parking lot*

Historic Resources = A\$\$ET\$

WISE MANAGEMENT OF ASSETS:

- Respect value
- Prolong life
- Effective use
- Multiple benefits
- “Stewardship”



**How can you know
what you've got...**

**BEFORE
there's a parking lot?**



HISTORIC RESOURCE?





Goodman Bldg Barb B iExplore community

HISTORIC RESOURCE?

The Goodman Library Building is at 1219 First Street in downtown Napa.

The cornerstone of the Library was laid May 2, 1901.

This is the oldest library in the State of California still being used for its original purpose.

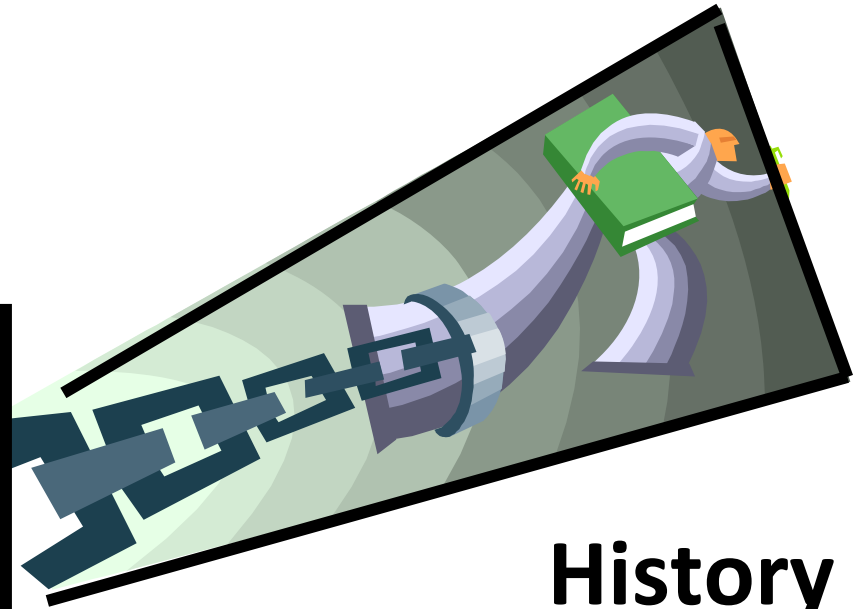
HISTORIC RESOURCE?



What is a Historic Context?

Describes significant aspects and broad patterns

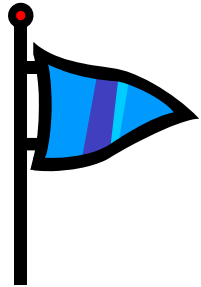
Built Environment



History

of an area's history and
cultural development.

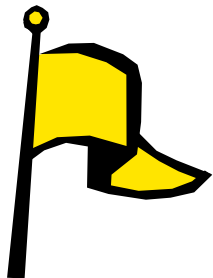
SOI Preservation Planning Standards



Standard I: Establishes Historic



**Standard II: Uses Contexts To Develop
Preservation Goals And Priorities**



**Standard III: Preservation Planning Is
One Element Of Larger Planning
Processes**

SOI (Secretary of the Interior)

Preservation Planning Establishes Historic Contexts



“The development of historic contexts is the foundation for decisions about identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties”

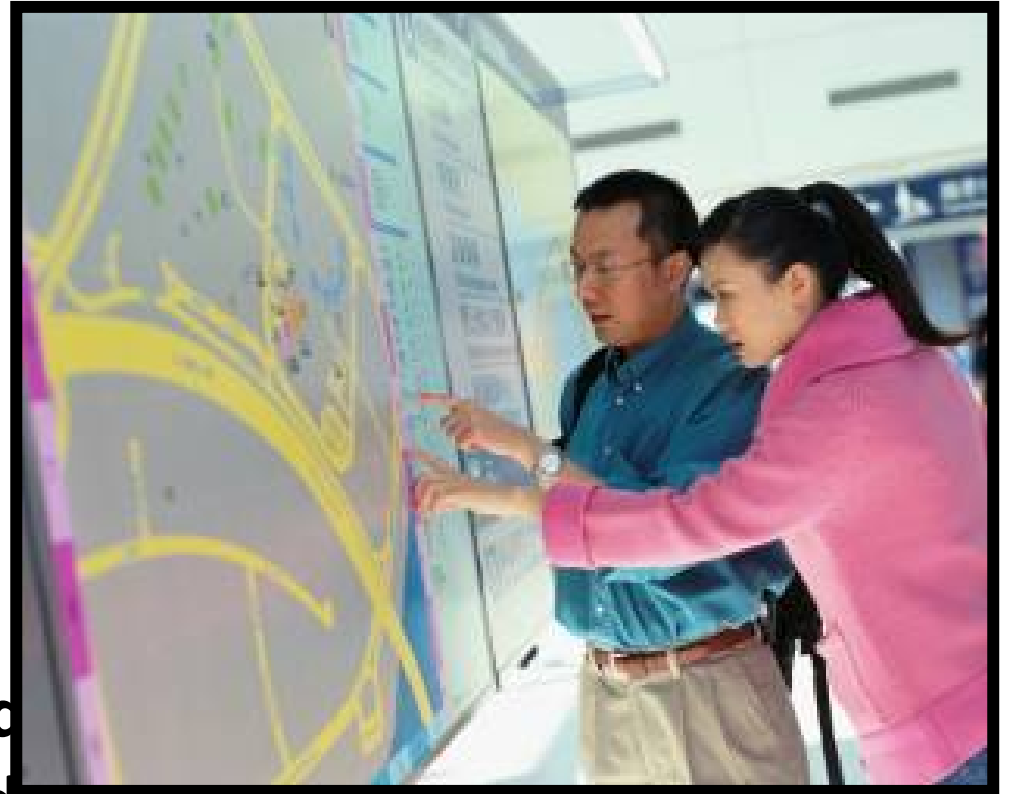


“The use of historic contexts in organizing major preservation activities ensures that those activities result in the preservation of the wide variety of properties that represent our history, rather than only a small, biased sample of properties.”



Historic Context Development

- **Variety of Scales**
 - **District**
 - **Planning Area**
 - **Citywide**
 - **Regional**
 - **State**
 - **National**
- **Level of detail depends on scale and intended uses**



HISTORIC CONTEXTS

THEME

PLACE

TIME

- **Thematic Approach:**

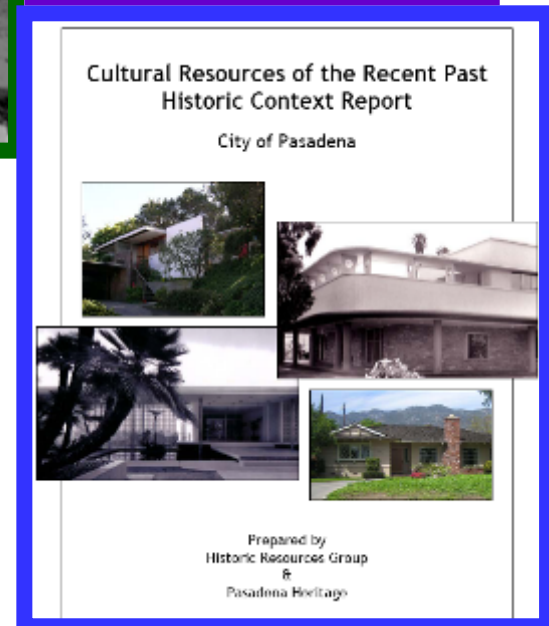
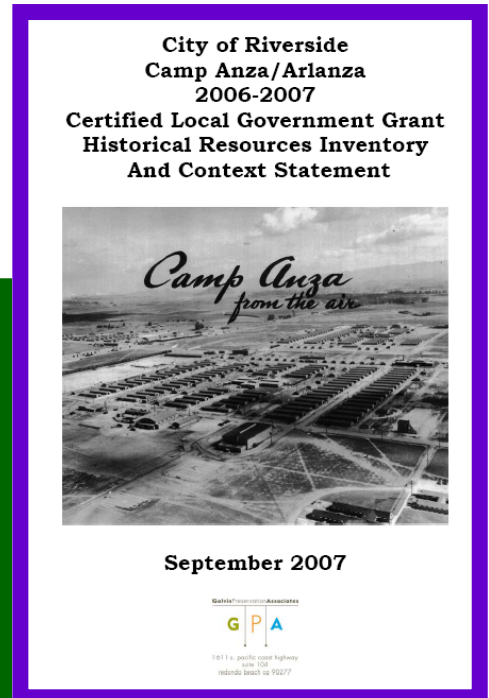
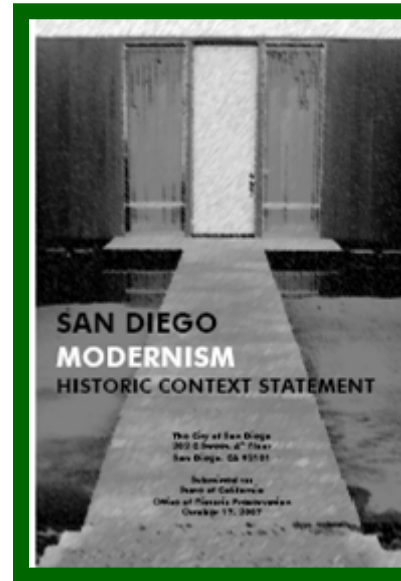
- Economic, Political, Social History
- Person or groups that influence character of area
- Architectural styles, building types, materials, methods of construction

- **Geographic Approach**

- Nation, State, Region, City, Community, Neighborhood

- **Chronological Approach:**

- Prehistoric or Historic period



Historic Contexts

Tell the stories that explain

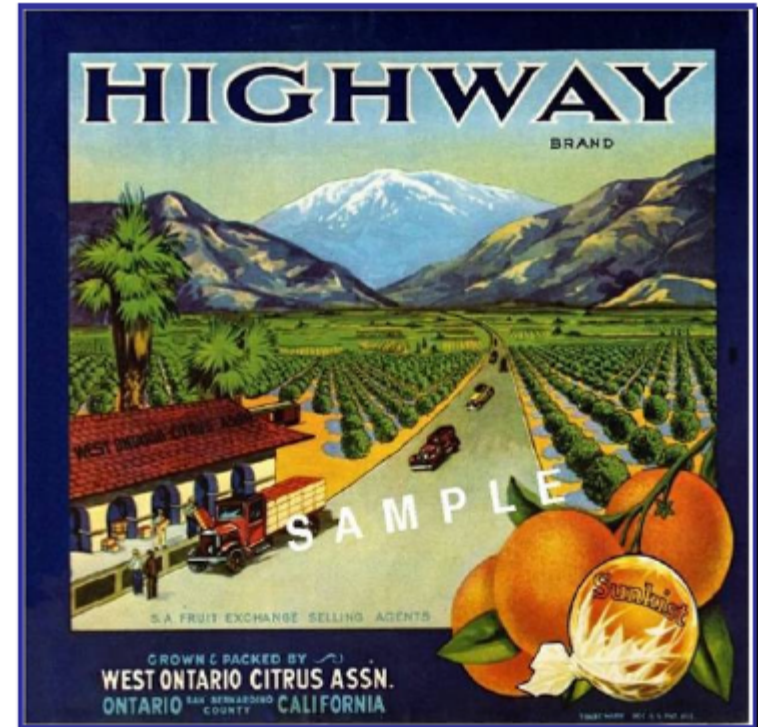
how,

when, and

why

the built environment
developed or looks the
way it does.

Historic Context for
The City of Ontario's Citrus Industry




Prepared For:

City of Ontario Planning Department
303 East "B" Street, Ontario, CA 91764

Submitted to:

Cathy Wahlstrom, Principal Planner

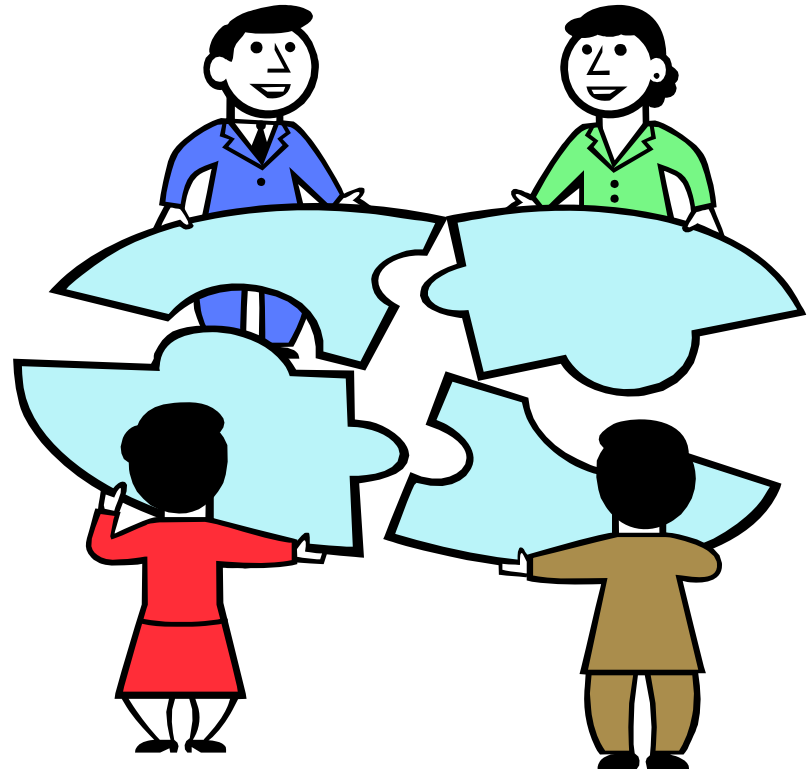
Prepared by:

 1611 South Pacific Coast Highway
Suite 104
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

February 2007

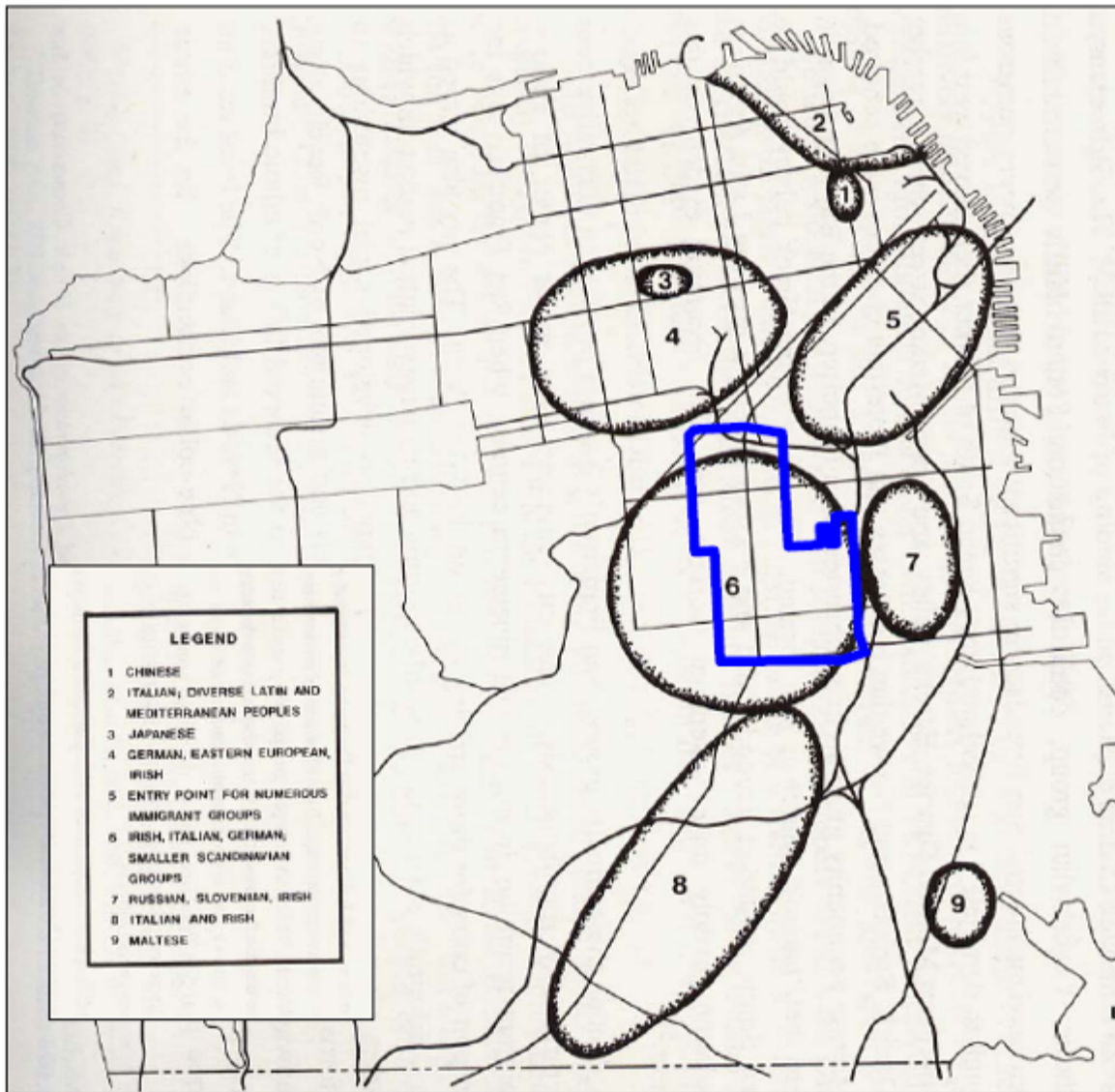
HISTORIC CONTEXTS

- *Synthesize* information
- *Identify* important historical patterns, events, people, groups, architectural types styles or types and cultural values.



ETHNIC CONCENTRATIONS IN THE MISSION DISTRICT AND SAN FRANCISCO,
PRE-WW II

Illustration source: Godfrey, 1988



Identify the property types* and locational patterns which represent important historic patterns, events, people or groups.

*Groupings of individual properties based on shared physical or associative characteristics

***Identify* characteristics each property type needs to represent the property type within the context.**

The minimum characteristics that are necessary to identify a 1920-1940 Art Deco or Streamline Moderne “flat style” milking parlor as associated with its identified historic context are a modestly sized, rectangular, two part, one story milking parlor designed in the Art Deco or Streamline Moderne architectural styles. The property must exhibit those character-defining features that are generally recognized with these styles, as described above. The property also must include a circular driveway in front of the building. It may include landscaping features, but these are not essential.

A 1920-1940 Art Deco or Streamline Moderne “flat style” milking parlor that exhibits high integrity is a property that exhibits the minimum characteristics of a property identified as having an association to this historic context. The property must retain both sections of the parlor intact. The property must have at least 90% of its original exterior features and must have the glass block windows intact on the primary elevation. The circular drive will remain intact. The property will be easily identifiable as a property that exhibits this historical context. The property retains its original use or is abandoned but its original use is evident due to its lack of alterations. The property retains its historic location and setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling and association.



Define eligibility and integrity thresholds.

**Context: Residential Buildings
in Point Arena, 1859-1940**

**Property Type: Houses –
Period of Stability 1880-1940**



Eligibility requirements:

- Clear examples of domestic architecture of the period
- Retain original form, room sized-additions only in the rear
- Replacement of materials must be in kind and only have
- Minor alterations that do not impact the historic character are acceptable

HISTORIC CONTEXTS also



- *Permit* identification, evaluation, and treatment of resources even in absence of complete knowledge of individual properties.
- *Facilitate* better understanding of the relative importance of resources for initial study as well as planning purposes.
- *Identify* additional Information Needs
- *Recommend* Preservation Goals and Strategies
- *Evolve* as additional information is acquired

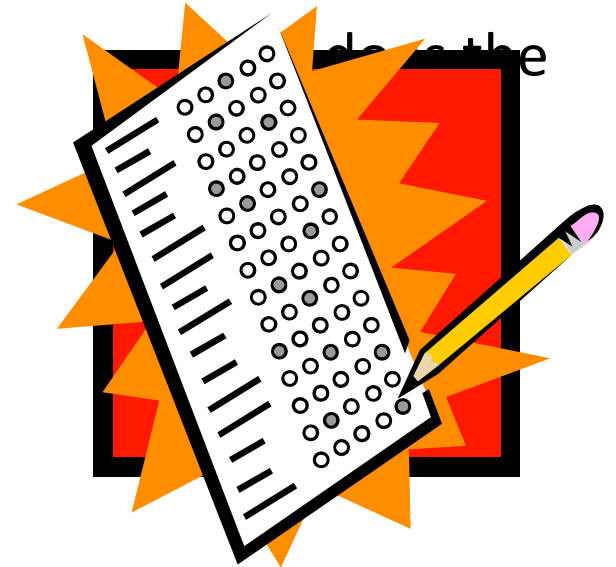
CONTEXTS



**For decisions about identification, evaluation,
registration and treatment of historic properties**

Info Needed To Evaluate Properties

- What **context** and **property type** resource represent?
- What eligibility **criteria** apply?
- What is its **significance**?
- Does it have the expected **defining features** for its type?
- Is it a **contributor** to a **district**?
- Does it possess the **integrity** characteristics for its property type within the defined context?



Multiple Contexts/Multiple Periods of Significance

Evaluating Significance & Integrity

- “Historic properties either retain their integrity or they do not” (NR Bulletin 15)
- **Critical relationship** exists between **significance** and **integrity**
- **Integrity** is contingent upon **significance**; the integrity of a given property cannot be evaluated until its significance has been determined
- It is possible for a property to be **significant** under more than one of the criteria, but to retain **integrity** only under one.



... And Beyond: Surveys

Systematic process for

- *Gathering information* about a community's historical resources.
- *Identifying* and
- *Evaluating* the quantity and quality of historical resources for *land-use planning purposes*.



Surveys provide **CLUES**

- **What** resources exist?
- **Where** are the resources are located?
- What are the **character defining features**?
- Why are they **significant**?
- Have they retained **integrity**?
- How does each need to be considered in planning?

Revisit, Reevaluate, Update



... And Beyond: Registration



- **National Historic Landmark**
- **National Register of Historic Places**
- **California Register of Historic Resources**
- **California Historical Landmarks**
- **California Points of Historical Interest**
- **Local Register/Designation**

... And Beyond: National Register Multiple Property Submission

NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN

HOW TO COMPLETE THE NATIONAL REGISTER MULTIPLE PROPERTY DOCUMENTATION FORM

- Narrative historic context statement
- Identification and description of associated property types
- Specific registration requirements
- At least 1 individual National Register nomination

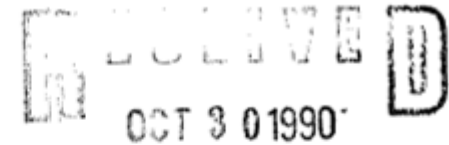
Documentation Form (NPS 10-900-b)

NPS Form 10-900-b
(Jan. 1987)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form



**NATIONAL
REGISTER**

This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

CALIFORNIA CARNEGIE LIBRARIES

B. Associated Historic Contexts

Carnegie Library Development in California and the Architecture
It Produced, 1899-1921

C. Geographical Data

Boundaries, the State of California

California Carnegie Libraries: Statement of Historic Contexts

NPS Form 1080-6
(2-88)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0188

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CALIFORNIA CARNEGIE LIBRARIES

Section number E Page 1

E. Statement of Historic Context: Carnegie Library Development in California and the Architecture It Produced, 1899-1921

In the same year that gold was discovered in California, the nation's first legislation permitting tax support for a free public library was passed in Massachusetts; in 1850 in England the Public Libraries Act allowed cities with over 10,000 population to levy a tax in support of libraries. The evolving concept of free public libraries was not merely transplanted to the new settlements in the West, however. Rather, two centuries of New England library development were replicated in California over a period of about twenty-five years, beginning with the establishment of social libraries and reading rooms in many of the new communities of the state. In 1878 California passed enabling legislation for tax supported free public libraries. Typically, however, even the new municipal libraries were housed in temporary and inadequate storefronts, upstairs lodge rooms, and city hall basements. When, in the closing years of the nineteenth century, Andrew Carnegie initiated his most widely known philanthropy, providing funds to cities and towns for the construction of library buildings, California communities were ready to join older communities across the nation in the quest for buildings for their libraries. Terms of Carnegie building grants required that communities provide the land for the library building and a prescribed level of tax support.

California library historian Ray Held chose the year 1917 to close his record of "the rise of the public library" in California¹ primarily because America's involvement in World War I slowed the growth of the public library movement, and also because it was the year of the sudden death of James Gillett, eminent California library leader whose accomplishment in initiating a statewide system of county libraries was recognized throughout the nation. "The year thus marked the end of an era in the evolution of the California public library."¹ Additionally, during the war years the Carnegie Corporation deferred grant applicants. After the war the Corporation redirected its library efforts and no further building grants were offered, although it was not until 1921 that the last of the previously funded library buildings was completed. In 1919, when all but six of the California Carnegie buildings were planned or completed, approximately 84% of California's public libraries were in Carnegie buildings.² The case can be made that by providing the library building--frequently a distinguished civic building--and by energizing a constituency to generate taxes and other funds for the library, the Carnegie program created a high level of popular and civic commitment to free public libraries that persists after more than half a century.

1. History of Public Libraries in California, 1849-1922

In his definitive studies of California public library history before the first World War, Ray Held identifies two major periods: 1849 to 1877, and 1878 to 1917. During the first period, many of the state's new communities sought to solidify their American status and accommodate

- **History of Public Libraries in California, 1849-1922**
 - Social Libraries, 1849-1878
 - The Rogers Act of 1878
 - Municipal and Social Libraries, 1878-1917
- **Andrew Carnegie and Library Philanthropy, 1866-1917**
 - Andrew Carnegie and buildings for libraries
 - Carnegie libraries in California
- **Architectural Styles**

California Carnegie Libraries MPS

Criterion A – Social History

Criterion C - Architecture



California Carnegie Library Registration Requirements

- **Architectural Integrity:** possess essential elements of its style and retain most of its original construction elements
- **Alterations and additions** are acceptable to rear and compatible in proportion... Fenestration patterns and original entrances remain.
- **Handicapped access** should not detract from the essential form or design elements; should be removable without damaging the fabric of the building.

NPS Form 10-900

NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Oroville Carnegie Library

other names/site number Carnegie Building

2. Location

street & number 1875 Montgomery Street N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Oroville N/A ☐ vicinity

state California code CA county Butte code 007 zip code 95965

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____

California Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the

National Register

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the

National Register

☐ removed from the National

Register

☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

Oroville Carnegie Library

Name of Property

Butte, California

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acres of Property Less than one (0.285 ac)

Oroville Carnegie Library

Name of Property

Butte, California

County and State

B. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

Enter "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing:

☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance

1912-1916

1912

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing Noncontributing

1

buildings

1

sites

1

structures

1

objects

1

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

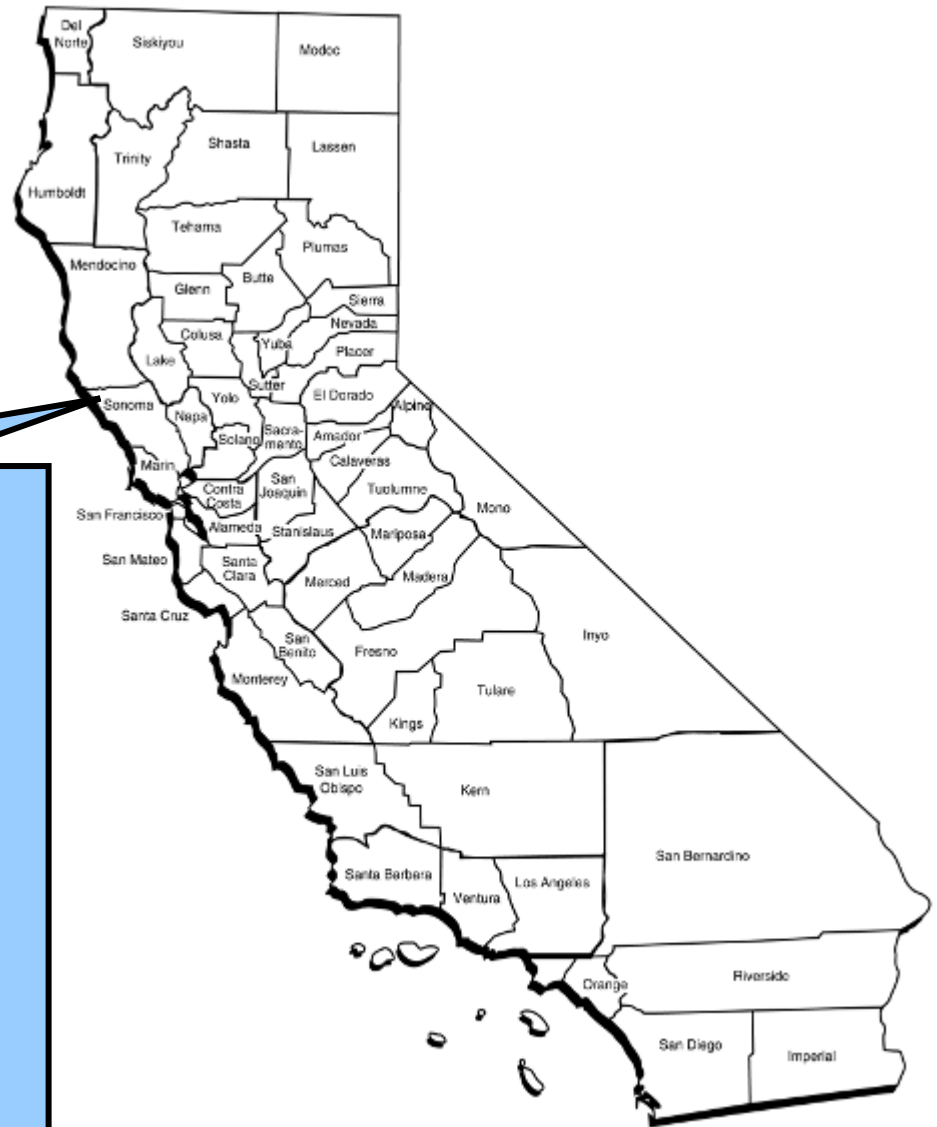
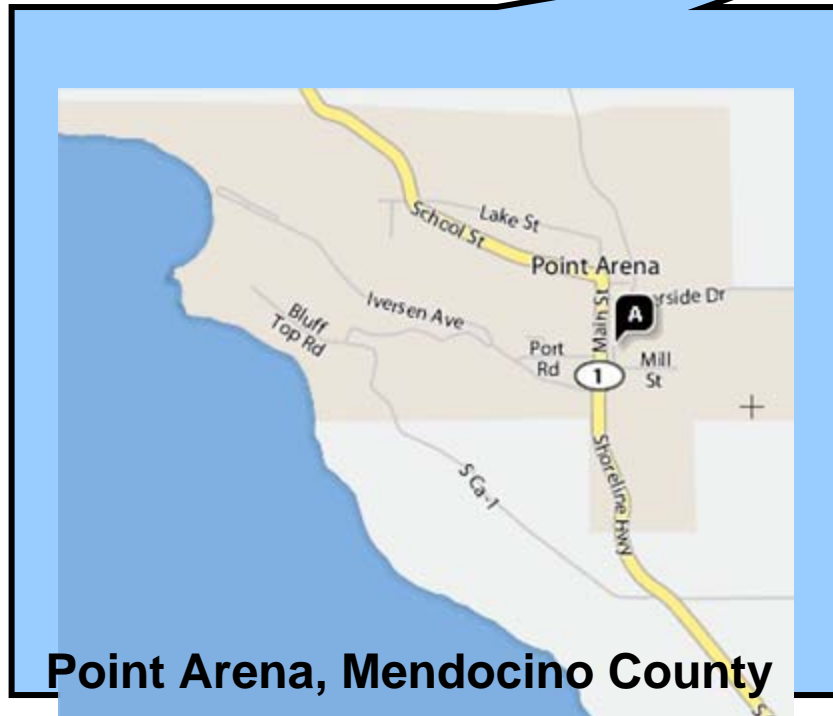
roof

walls

other



Architectural and Historic Resources of Point Arena, CA



Architectural and Historic Resources of Point Arena, CA

Associated Historic Contexts:

- Economic Development of Point Arena, 1859-1940
- Residential Building in Point Arena, 1859-1940
- Institutions in Point Arena, 1859-1940



Economic Development of Point Arena, 1859-1940

Associated Property Types

- Commercial buildings of Main Street
- Wharf buildings
 - Lifesaving Service
 - Shipping Business
- Lighthouse complex



Residential Buildings in Point Arena, 1859-1940

Associated Property Types

- **Houses** – Period of Settlement
 - Constructed between 1859-1880
 - Wood, gabled roofs, board siding, large lots
- **Residential Buildings** – Period of Stability
 - Constructed between 1880-1940
 - Architectural style, skilled craftsmanship, somewhat smaller lots, outbuildings



Institutions in Point Arena, 1859-1940

- Government
- Schools
- Churches
- Social & Civic Groups



California's Multiple Property Submissions

- Bungalow Courts of Pasadena TR
- CA Carnegie Libraries MPS
- Early Auto-Related Properties in Pasadena MPS
- Earth Figures of CA-AZ Colorado River Basin TR
- Historic Landscapes in National and State Parks MPS
- Highway Bridges of CA MPS
- Hollister MPS
- La Grange MPS
- Lassen Volcanic National Park MPS
- Light Stations of CA MPS
- Lillian Rice Designed Buildings in Rancho Santa Fe MPS
- Los Angeles Branch Library System TR
- Newlands Reclamation TR
- Point Arena MPS
- Residential Architecture of Pasadena: Influences of the Arts & Crafts Movement MPS
- Torrance High School Campus TR
- Twentieth Century Folk Art Environment in California TR
- University of California, Berkeley MRA
- US Post Offices in CA 1900-1914 TR

... And Beyond:



Contexts Provide Direction for Preservation Planning

... And Beyond:

Historic Contexts

Provide the foundation for understanding a community's historical assets –

...what warrants preservation

...and why.



For More Information:

- Archeology and Historic Preservation: *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines (Planning, Identification, Evaluation, Registration, etc.)*
- http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch_stnds_0.htm
- National Register Bulletins – 15, 16B, 24
<http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/publications/bulletins.htm>
- “Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning,” *National Register Bulletin 24*,
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb24/>
- Office of Historic Preservation www.ohp.parks.ca.gov